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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 ACDA-07 MC-02 EB-07 TRSE-00
/098 W
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R 211515Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8953
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
USINTERESTS BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WAHSDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 8898

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI EG UR
SUBJECT: FAHMI VISIT TO MOSCOW

REF: (A) MOSCOW 8342, (B) MOSCOW 3804 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. SOVIET MFA OFFICIAL DESCRIBES FAHMI VISIT TO MOSCOW AS DIFFICULT BUT SUCCESSFUL, SUGGESTS THAT SOVIETS WANT TO SIGN A POLITICAL DOCUMENT WITH THE GYPTIANS WHICH WILL SERVE AS A BASIS FOR AN IMPROVED RELATIONSHIP AND SAYS THAT, CONTINGENT ON
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CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT OF RELATIONS, TECHNICAL NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE HELD ON SPARE PARTS AND ARMS SUPPLY QUESTION BETWEEN NOW AND TIME OF GROMYKO VISIT TO CAIRO IN LATE AUGUST, EARLY SEPTEMBER. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING JUNE 21 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, MFA N. E. COUNTRIES DEPT. COUNSELOR ANATOLIY I. FILEV (EGYPT):

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-- DESCRIBED NEGOTIATIONS PRIOR TO AND DURING
FAHMI VISIT TO MOSCOW AS "DIFFICULT, BUT SUCCESSFUL"
IN SENSE OF LAYING POLITICAL GROUNDWORK FOR IMPROVEMENT
OF SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS. RESPONDING TO EMBOFF'S
SUGGESTION, HE SAID THAT A JOINT POLITICAL DOCUMENT,
E.G., A SET OF "PRINCIPLES OF MUTUAL RELATIONS",
MIGHT SERVE AS A FORMAL POLITICAL BASE FOR AN IMPROVEMENT
IN THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP AND IN THAT SENSE WOULD
SUBSTITUTE FOR THE FRIENDSHIP TREATY ABROGATED BY PRESI-
DENT SADAT. HE IMPLIED THAT SOVIET SIDE WOULD SEEK TO
SIGH SUCH A DOCUMENT AT TIME OF GROMYKO VISIT TO
CAIRO IN LATE AUGUST, EARLY SEPTEMBER (EXACT DATES, HE
SAID, HAVE NOT BEEN FIXED).

-- SAID THAT DECISION HAD NOT YET BEEN MADE TO
RETURN REMAINING REBUILT AIRCRAFT ENGINES (HE DID NOT
CORRECT EMBOFF'S ESTIMATE OF 120) TO EGYPT, BUT ADDED
THAT "ALL AGREEMENTS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT." HE AGREED
THAT THIS PROBLEM, PLUS ISSUE OF SPARE PARTS AND ARMS
SUPPLY WAS POLITICAL MATTER AND WAS SEEN IN THE CONTEXT
OF PROCESS OF IMPROVEMENT OF POLITICAL RELATIONS. HE
ADMITTED THAT SOVIET SIDE ENVISAGED HOLDING SPECIFIC,
TECHNICAL TALKS WITH EGYPTIANS ON THESE ISSUES BETWEEN
NOW AND TIME OF GROMYKO VISIT TO CAIRO. EMBOFF DID
NOT HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK IF THESE TALKS WOULD
INCLUDE ISSUE OF DEBT RESCHEDULING. ASKED IF
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"CONCRETE MEASURES" TO IMPROVE RELATIONSHIP WHICH
WERE DISCUSSED DURING FAHMI-BREZHNEV MEETING (REF A)
INCLUDED MODERATION OF EGYPTIAN ANTI-SOVIET PRESS
CAMPAIGNS, FILEV SAID THAT IT WOULD NOT BE DIPLOMATIC
TO EXPLAIN STATEMENT FURTHER, BUT THAT IT WAS CLEAR
THAT NO PROGRESS COULD BE MADE IN RESOLVING SPECIFIC
PROBLEMS SUCH AS ARMS AND DEBTS AT SAME TIME THAT
EGYPTIANS PRESS WAS CARRYING ON "SLANDEROUS"
CAMPAIGN AGAINST SOVIET UNION AND ITS FOREIGN POLICY.
-- AGREED THAT COMMUNIQUE AND GROMYKO SPPECH
HAD DELIBERATELY EMPHASIZED ISSUE OF WITHDRAWAL OF
ISRAELI TROOPS TO JUNE, 1967 BORDER. HE SAID THERE HAD
BEEN SOME MISUNDERSTANDING AND EVEN MISINTERPRETATION
OF THE SOVIET POSITION ON THIS ISSUE AS OUTLINED IN
BREZHNEV'S MARCH 21 TUC SPPECH (REF B). HE
DENIED THAT GOMYKO LUNCHEON SPEECH REFERENCE TO
"SOME" WHO WERE TRYING TO TWIST SOVIET POSITION
ON THIS ISSUE REFERRED TO AMERICANS AND SAID THAT
THIS ACTUALLY REFERRED TO CERTAIN ARAB SPOKESMEN AND
NEWSPAPERS.
-- DENIED THAT ANY AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED
ON POSSIBLE BREZHNEV-SADAT VISIT. IN PRESENT STAGE OF

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RELATIONSHIP, SUCH A DISCUSSION WOULD BE PREMATURE, HE SAID.

3. COMMENT: FILEV IS AN EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS AND TACITURN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS NOT GIVEN TO MAKING CLEAR-CUT, DEFINITIVE STATEMENTS. ALL THE MORE INTERESTING THEN ARE HIS COMMENTS ON A POSSIBLE SOVIET-EGYPTIAN POLITICAL DOCUMENT AND ON SOVIET-EGYPTIAN MILITARY TALKS, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF EGYPTIAN RETICENCE TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF VISIT WITH CAIRO EMBOFFS.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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SAS ID: 2083353
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Subject: FAHMI VISIT TO MOSCOW
TAGS: MILI, EG, UR, (FAHMI, ISMAIL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0e4c6479-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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